

OCALA EVENING STAR

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PRESIDENT WILSON'S

MEXICAN POLICY

The Star has been denounced as a jingo and accused of being false to the democratic party because it has criticized President Wilson's Mexican policy.

Democratic papers are very much given to abusing republicans because they stand by their party leaders thru thick and thin; therefore it is inconsistent in a democrat to criticize another democrat for opposing or denouncing what he believes to be wrong.

The other day, a friend said to us that President Wilson knew far more what was going on in Mexico than we did; therefore it was our duty to subordinate our judgment to that of the president and back him up in whatever he did.

No doubt that President Wilson knows far more about what is going on in Mexico than we do, but there are some things a man does not need to go outside his own voting precinct to know.

Among them is the world-established fact that it is wrong to permit crime when it is in our power to prevent it.

During Mr. Wilson's administration the crimes of murder, rape and robbery have been committed on our people in Mexico. It has been in Mr. Wilson's power to prevent such crimes, or most of them, and he has not done so.

Mr. Wilson has taken the highly moral ground that an American who goes into a foreign country must abide by its laws, and take his chances, and if he gets into trouble he mustn't expect to involve his country in trouble by taking the risk and expense of getting him out of trouble.

We have no doubt that Mr. Wilson is conscientious in this view, but it seems to us as a cold and selfish policy and one that can meet the unqualified approval of only a man with a wide streak of yellow running down his back. It might work in Britain, France or Germany, but we do not think it is honest or brave to let it apply in a country that even Mr. Wilson admits is ruled by brigands.

Our people who have suffered in Mexico went to that country under the guarantee of its de facto government that their lives and property should be safe. They went encouraged to make investments and the Mexicans were only too willing to take their money. They were filling that country with prosperity and enterprise, and all the world seemed to think they were doing a meritorious thing.

Then came the revolutions, but at first Americans were not molested, for it was believed their government would protect them. But some more than usually daring villain perpetrated an outrage, and got away with it, and then they followed thick and fast, until now an American in Mexico has no more rights than a pariah dog.

How can any American, whether his sires fought at Yorktown or New Orleans, Buena Vista or Cerro Gordo, or came to this country of later years because they wanted to be free men, be comfortable when he knows his own people are so outrageously treated?

There are among us men so lost to decency as to claim that these Mexicans who have persecuted our countrymen and countrywomen are animated by patriotic motives, and what they have done has been with the intent of freeing their land from oppressors.

Any man who has common sense and ordinary information knows that Americans have been oppressed in Mexico because they had property that Mexicans wanted to take away from them; knows that Mexicans have committed crimes against Americans in Mexico that they would be hung or jailed for in America.

Every American has been brought up in the belief that it was praiseworthy enterprise for an American to go into another country and there build up a legitimate business. Every American has been brought up to believe that an American, no matter where he was, was entitled to help and protection from his country. And such is the policy and belief of every self-respecting country in the world.

This nation cannot live and remain great under any other policy. If we let people of other nations rob our men and outrage our women abroad, we will soon begin to let them do the same things to us at home. Then we will be at the level of the Chinese.

The other day, Mr. Wilson made a speech at Detroit to the assembled salesmen of the country. He wanted America, he said, by justice, fair dealing and enterprise to build up a great trade with all the world.

That is all very well if this country will back its people up when they are imposed on abroad. If it doesn't, they will have to be enterprising in the way the Chinese business men are enterprising.

The Chinese go everywhere and do a great deal of business, but nobody respects them in the way an Ameri-

BELLEVUE

Bellevue, July 11.—Tuesday, July 4th was the largest day known in the history of the town of Bellevue. The get-together barbecue committee had done their work and about one thousand pounds of barbecued meat awaited the pleasure of the visitors.

Mr. Thomas, the famous cornet soloist, sounded the call to arms and seven to eight hundred people responded from all parts of the county.

The amusing part of the program in the shape of sports of various kinds was then pulled off, after which an elegant and patriotic tribute to the 4th of July and its institutions was delivered by Judge Joseph Bell of Ocala. Then Rev. Wilbur I. Whidden invoked the divine blessing on all present and the edibles that were about to be consumed and the people went to it. Nobody had to lead them to it—they went right to it with a gusto, and many were the compliments paid to the chefs, the cooks and everybody concerned with the cooking of the meats. It was universally declared that this was the finest barbecued meat that had ever been served in this section.

After the eating program the Bellevue swatters crossed bats with a class aggregation of baseball players from Sparr, who put up a good fight but it was just like brushing flies from the sleeve for the Bellevue boys to show the Sparr boys their place in baseball in a score of four to two and this ended our get-together feast.

Mr. B. N. Tanner, the originator of the move, has shown that it is possible for the people of Bellevue to come together on common ground and his efforts in this line are very praiseworthy, and the people appreciate his labors.

Among those who really made the whole affair a howling success were the meat committee, Mr. James N. Shedd as chef, showed his early training at Delmonico's; Mr. J. A. Freeman, as chef, cook and baster proved that he missed his calling by not presiding over one of the ranges at Sherry's on 5th avenue in New York City. Mr. J. L. Whisenant upheld his title to chief cook and bottle washer, so that none could challenge his superiority. Mr. Roy Freeman made a reputation as fire tender and meat turner, while Mr. Abner Adams put the delicate touches that gave the flavor and the tang to the stew. And this is the bunch of men that captured the hearts of the crowd, via the stomach route, even if they were on duty continuously for thirty-six hours.

Mr. Raymond Gale and his committee carried off the sporting end of the proposition to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. One of the features of the barbecue very favorably commented upon was the reception committee headed by Messrs. Mark and Frank Hutson, who met the incoming autos, wagons, buggies and other vehicles and directed them to the proper parking space, thus avoiding a good deal of friction and confusion.

The finance committee was the least obtrusive bunch in the whole gang, but they did very well considering that everything was bought and paid for and \$9.97 being left over was presented to the Bellevue Workers.

Mr. Frank Sanders, the abstract man, hesitated for a few minutes, long enough to say hello to a few of his friends and then resumed his journey to Bushnell to wrestle with some facts and figures described as ranges, townships and sections.

Miss Louise Bitting arrived last Saturday after an extended visit to friends and relatives in St. Petersburg.

Mr. J. N. McAllister came up from Groveland last Friday to spend the week end with his family.

Mrs. Isaac N. Nichols spent several days last week in Wildwood visiting her daughter, Mrs. I. I. Strong.

Letters received from Miss Ruby McClendon, in Indiana, state that she is enjoying the northern summer and having a very agreeable time on her travels.

Mr. Auel Polly, one of Bellevue's most popular old-timers, just had to come to Bellevue on the 4th to get some of that barbecued meat and renew old friendships. Mr. Polly is one of the Star's oldest subscribers and always looks forward to the Bellevue items.

Mr. E. A. Polly, who for many years operated a sawmill in this section, up to 1905, was another visitor of note on our streets last Monday.

Mrs. Sidney Maddox and little son accompanied by Mrs. W. R. Kilpatrick, left for St. Petersburg last week.

News from Black Point indicates that Bennie Shedd, one of the soldier boys, is homesick and wants to come back just as quick as they will let him. They don't have any syrup and hot biscuits and mother's cookies and the stern monotony of beans, salt horse and hardtack goes against his delicate constitution. And besides that the work is too strenuous and persistent—those officers just do not know when enough is a plenty. We will all be glad to welcome Bennie home and feel certain that he has had an experience that will last a lifetime.

Some one told me that little Bill Whisenant had about made up his mind that he was not cut out for a real live soldier boy, at the present time, but that after he has a chance to grow some more he will take another whack at it. Anyhow, the wide world looks good to "Bill," and he has about made up his mind to see some more of it before he returns to Bellevue. Lloyd Maier is not saying much,

but briefly said, send me my baseball and mit. According to that he is fixed.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Hafner made a business trip to Ocala last Saturday.

I heard on the quiet that Lawton Sims had forgotten his early Christian training and all of the lessons of submissiveness instilled in his eager mind here in Bellevue. So much so, when some imitation soldier slapped him one, he did not turn the other cheek, but thumped that would be tin soldier right square on the jaw, and then proceeded to give him some lessons in etiquette. I also understand that he has done this a couple of times, and am exceedingly surprised at the pugnacious attitude of Bellevue's leading B. Y. P. U. exponent.

Alfred Abshire is not saying much, or doing much, except to do his duty conscientiously to the packages of pies, cakes, etc sent him from home. Go to it boys and get all the fun and enjoyment out of it while you can.

Mrs. R. L. Sumner and children have returned from a short visit to South Florida.

Mrs. J. C. Smith and children of St. Petersburg are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Bitting.

Mrs. M. A. Dudley has returned from a visit to her mother, Mrs. Snow at Wildwood.

Mrs. Wm. H. Mitchell of Manatee is visiting with her daughter, Mrs. J. Walter Nelson.

Miss Elsa Schneider came down from Ocala last Monday to spend the 4th of July.

The Masons will hold their regular monthly meeting Thursday night, July 13th.

Mr. Troy Hall of Summerfield was in town last Monday.

Misses Eleanor and Minnie Tremere and their guest, Miss Louise Bitting, drove to North Lake Weir last Sunday morning and in company with

Mr. Frank Adams went to Silver Springs that afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Hightower were visiting friends in Bellevue last Sunday.

The saddest shock that Bellevue has received in many a day was the news from Bridgeport, Conn., that Mrs. Susan Parmelee had passed away.

Mrs. John Brown made a business trip to Ocala last week.

Found, between Bellevue and Ocala, an automobile muffler. Party losing same can find it at the Bellevue Trading company's store at Bellevue.

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